

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 2 of page 1 with the following amended paragraph:

--This application is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/396,003, filed September 13, 1999, now abandoned, which is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 08/792,553, filed January 31, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,981,200, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 08/594,575, filed January 31, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 6,803,188.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 11 of page 6 with the following amended paragraph:

--FIG. 1A and FIG. 1B depict the nucleotide sequence and deduced amino acid sequence of a wild-type *Aequorea* green fluorescent protein.